The Washington	n Post
The New York	Times
The Washington	
The Wall Street	
The Christian Se	
New York Daily	
USA Today	
The Chicago Tri	hunn

Webster says sanctions won't stop iraq

CIA Director William Webster, in a letter yesterday to House Armed



Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin, said the economic embargo against Baghdad would not drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

He also said the CIA believes

the Iraqi air force and air defenses would feel the bite of long-term economic sanctions more than ground forces. The Iraqi air force is not expected to play a major role in a battle for Kuwait, the CIA director added.

Liberal House Democrats used Mr. Webster's letter to argue that the Bush administration is continuing to revise its view of the impact of economic sanctions.

But the CIA said in a statement released late yesterday that the letter is "consistent with Judge Webster's Dec. 4, 1990, testimony before the House Armed Services Committee and does not represent a change in the intelligence community's assessment."